REMARKS

Claims 17-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Horimai et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because the cited reference does not disclose (or suggest) the features of the surface of a glass layer having concave and convex shapes of a concave and convex face of a carbon mold used to form an information pattern on the glass layer, as now described in claims 17 and 19.

The Office Action states that the Horimai et al. reference discloses a substrate having an information pattern formed on a glass substrate. Horimai et al. discloses a recording medium having a read-only pits and lands/grooves formed in a recordable area. The cited reference further discloses that a cutting apparatus includes "an optical section 40 for performing cutting by radiating a laser beam onto a glass substrate 41 on which photo resist has been applied." Thus, the Horimai et al. reference teaches forming data on a substrate by using a laser beam.

In the present invention, the information pattern is formed on the substrate by pressing the concave and convex face of a carbon mold onto the glass layer when the glass layer is heated. As a result, the surface of the glass layer has a concave and convex shapes of the carbon mold used to form the information pattern on the substrate. As such, the substrate of Horimai et al. does not, and cannot, have a glass layer having a surface with the concave and convex shapes, as now described in claims 17-19. For this reason, claims 17-19 are allowable over the cited reference.

For all of the above reasons, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of the claimed invention. The Examiner should contact Applicants' undersigned attorney if a telephone conference would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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